

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

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SUBJECT: AUSTRALIAN CABINET APPOINTED WITH FEW CHANGES

REF: CANBERRA 3578

1. SUMMARY: PRIME MINISTER WHITLAM ANNOUNCED ON JUNE 11 DISTRIBUTION OF PORTFOLIOS AMONG MINISTERS ELECTED BY LABOR CAUCUS JUNE 10 (REFTEL). FEW CHANGES INVOLVED IN NEW CABINET. END SUMMARY.

2. PRIME MINISTER WHITLAM ANNOUNCED ON JUNE 11 DISTRIBUTION OF PORTFOLIOS IN MINISTRY ELECTED BY LABOR CAUCUS JUNE 10 (REFTEL). MEMBERS OF CABINET AND RESPONSIBILITIES FOLLOW:

3. GOUGH WHITLAM, PRIME MINISTER; J. F. CAIRNS, DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER FOR OVERSEAS TRADE; R. F. X. CONNOR, MINISTER FOR MINERALS AND ENERGY; W.G. HAYDEN, MINISTER FOR SOCIAL SECURITY; SENATOR L. K. MURPHY, LEADER OF GOVERNMENT IN SENATOR, ATTORNEY GENERAL, MINISTER FOR CUSTOMS AND EXCISE; SENATOR D. R. WILLESEE, MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS; FRANK
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CREAN, TREASURER; FREDERICK M. DALY, MINISTER FOR SERVICES AND

PROPERTY, LEADER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES; SENATOR DOUGLAS MCCLELLAND, MINISTER FOR THE MEDIA, MANAGER OF GOVERNMENT BUSINESS IN SENATE; LANCE BARNARD, MINISTER FOR DEFENSE; SENATOR K. S. WRIEDT, MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURE; DR. REX PATTERSON, MINISTER FOR NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER FOR NORTHERN TERRITORY; CLYDE R. CAMERON, MINISTER FOR LABOR AND IMMIGRATION; KIM BEAZLEY, MINISTER FOR EDUCATION.

4. LIONEL BOWEN, SPECIAL MINISTER OF STATE AND MINISTER ASSISTING PRIME MINISTER ON PUBLIC SERVICE MATTERS; SENATOR JOHN WHEELDON, MINISTER FOR REPATRIATION AND COMPENSATION; TOM UREN, MINISTER FOR URBAN AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT; SENATOR REGINALD BISHOP, POSTMASTER-GENERAL; L. R. JOHNSON, MINISTER FOR HOUSING AND CONSTRUCTION; C. K. JONES, MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT; DR. DOUGLAS EVERINGHAM, MINISTER FOR HEALTH; K. E. ENDERBY, MINISTER FOR MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY; GORDON BRYANT, MINISTER FOR CAPITAL TERRITORY; DR. MOSES H. CASS, MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION; SENATOR J. L. CAVANAGH, MINISTER FOR ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS; WILLIAM L. MORRISON, MINISTER FOR SCIENCE, MINISTER ASSISTING MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS ON PAPUA NEW GUINEA AND MINISTER ASSISTING MINISTER FOR DEFENSE; F. E. STEWART, MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND RECREATION AND VICE PRESIDENT OF EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

5. CHANGES INVOLVE GROUPING IMMIGRATION AND LABOR UNDER ONE MINISTER (CLYDE CAMERON), A LOGICAL STEP WHICH RELATES INFLOW OF IMMIGRANTS TO LEVEL OF EMPLOYMENT. DEPARTMENT OF SUPPLY, WHOSE CIVILIAN AND MILITARY FUNCTIONS ARE TO BE SEPARATED, WILL HAVE ITS CIVILIAN ASPECT ABSORBED INTO DEPARTMENT OF MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY, RENAMED DEPARTMENT OF SECONDARY INDUSTRY. SENATOR WHEELDON BECOMES MINISTER FOR REPATRIATION (VETERANS' ADMINISTRATION) WITH FURTHER, UNDEFINED FUNCTIONS IN FIELD OF COMPENSATION. SENATOR BISHOP BECOMES POSTMASTER-GENERAL, POST RELINQUISHED BY LIONEL BOWEN, WHOSE FUNCTIONS APPEAR TO BE CONSIDERABLY REDUCED.

6. COMMENT: THIS IS ONLY SLIGHTLY DIFFERENT FROM CABINET PRIOR TO ELECTIONS OF MAY 18, THOUGH POSITION OF DR. CAIRNS AS DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND ADDITION OF SENATOR WHEELDON TO CABINET, BOTH WELL-KNOWN LEFTISTS, PROMISE TO GIVE SIGNIFICANTLY DIFFERENT FLAVOR TO MINISTERIAL TEAM. END COMMENT.

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